

Please amend paragraph [0032], page 5 of the specification as follows:

As shown in Figure 2C and Figures 3-6, the holder 14 includes an annular tubular base 16 having a ~~top-surface-18~~ retention ribs 18 adapted for holding the styptic pencil 12.

Please amend paragraph [0033], page 5 of the specification as follows:

The base 16 is generally adapted for holding a styptic pencil as described herein. As shown in Figure 6, preferably includes elements for retaining the styptic pencil on the base, such as one or more ~~protruding~~ retention ribs 18 for engagement with the styptic pencil 12, and at least one aperture 20. The friction between the pencil 12 and the retention ribs keep the pencil in place on the base.

Please amend paragraph [0037], page 6 of the specification as follows:

The dispenser includes a sealable cap 42 for protecting the pencil 12 from exposure to unwanted moisture or wetness which can deteriorate the pencil. As shown in Figures 2 and 7 ~~3~~, the cap 42 may surround all of or a portion of the outer shell 28. It is also preferred that the cover is frictionally engaged with the activator so that the distance of the base 14 from the top 24 of the inner retainer 22 is generally fixed. It is also preferred that the activator includes protrusions 44 for engagement with the cap 42, as shown in Figure 2B. However, the cover may alternatively have depressions for frictional engagement with the grip 30.